

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3114

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2003

INDO-US EXPORT PACT

RENUKA CHOWDHURY;SRINIVASULU KALAVA;TUFANI SAROJ

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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(a) the present trade volume between India and U.S.A.;

(b) whether India and the U.S.A. signed an export pact on February 6, 2003 in Washington in the form of a Statement of Principle to improve and promote Indo-U.S. trade relations;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the likely boost in trade with the U.S. including that in high technology sector with the adoption and implementation of this principle during 2003-04-05 as compared to the trade during 2002-2003 and 2001-2002;

(e) whether the Statement of Principle contemplates setting up of a high technology cooperation group; and

(f) if so, the composition and precise functions of the group?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA)

(a) India-U.S. merchandise trade in 2002 was U.S. \$ 15.9 billion. In addition, bilateral trade in information technology and related services was estimated to be U.S. \$ 8.8 billion in 2002.

(b) & (c) Yes. India and the United States signed, on 5 February 2003 in Washington D.C., a Statement of Principles to further promote and facilitate high technology commerce, including trade in 'dual use' goods and technologies.

(d) The implementation of the Statement of Principles is expected to accelerate India-U.S. trade in goods and services, which grew by 15% in 2002 over the level in 2001. Further, it would also enhance India's access to controlled 'dual use' goods and technologies from the United States.

(e) Yes.

(f) The bilateral High Technology Cooperation Group (HTCG) will comprise representatives of all concerned ministries and departments of the two governments. The HTCG will engage in consultations and facilitate promotional and outreach activities, in partnership with the private sector of the two countries, to implement the Statement of Principles, including addressing the regulatory and policy issues relating to exports of U.S. 'dual use' goods and technologies to India.